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**Hemmings et al.**

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(54) **PROCESS FOR CONVERSION OF INTRACTABLE OIL-BEARING, DRILL CUTTING WASTES FROM DEEP GAS EXPLORATION WELLS TO ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS**

(71) Applicants: **Raymond T. Hemmings**, Kennesaw, GA (US); **Bruce J. Cornelius**, Waterdown (CA)

(72) Inventors: **Raymond T. Hemmings**, Kennesaw, GA (US); **Bruce J. Cornelius**, Waterdown (CA)

(73) Assignee: **MARYLAND ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION GROUP, INC.**, Williamsport, MD (US)

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**E21B 21/06** (2006.01)  
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(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC ..... **E21B 21/065** (2013.01); **E01C 3/003** (2013.01); **E21B 21/066** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

CPC ..... E21B 21/065; E01C 3/003  
See application file for complete search history.

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*Primary Examiner* — Paul Marcantoni

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Clark Hill PLC; John S. Paniaguas

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A process is disclosed which converts intractable, semi-solid drill cuttings into a free-flowing granular, soil-like SDC material, which, after appropriate compaction, can be beneficially used for a variety of engineering construction applications, thereby removing the need for disposal with its associated costs and environmental impact, and as a result improving the overall economics for gas well development, together with improving corporate sustainability and reducing liability.

**12 Claims, 18 Drawing Sheets**

